

Federal Transit Administration

Notice of Availability and Public Hearing on the Supplemental Draft

**Environmental Impact Statement for the Miami-Miami Beach Transportation
Corridor Project in Miami Dade County, Florida.**

AGENCY: Federal Transit Administration, DOT

ACTION: Notice of Availability and Public Hearing of the Supplemental Draft
Environmental Impact Statement.

SUMMARY: The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) is issuing this notice to advise the public and interested agencies that a Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS) is available for the Miami Beach Transportation Corridor (Bay Link) Project. The Bay Link Project was originally included in the DEIS for the East-West Multimodal Corridor Project. The Supplement has been prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended.

The original DEIS for the E-WMCP evaluated, the following alternatives: a no build alternative; a transportation system management alternative; expressway widening alternative, elevated expressway alternative, a Metrorail via Earlington Heights Multimodal alternative, four SR 836 multimodal alternatives with thirteen options, and the Flagler Street alternative. All of the transit alternatives included a light rail connection between Biscayne Boulevard in downtown Miami and Miami Beach.

The alternatives being analyzed for the Bay Link Project include: No-Project Alternative, a Baseline Alternative, a Bus Rapid Transit alternative, options for an

at-grade LRT system from downtown Miami to the Miami Beach Convention Center via the south side of the MacArthur Causeway. The alternatives in downtown Miami include several potential alignment segments: terminating at Government Center Station, terminating at the Overtown station, or operating in a loop via NW 9th Street, NW 1st Avenue, Flagler and Biscayne Boulevard. On Miami Beach the alternatives include approaching the Miami Beach Convention Center via Washington Avenue, approaching the Miami Beach Convention Center via Alton Road, and serving South Beach via a loop along Washington Avenue, 17th Street, and Alton Road.

The DEIS will be available for public comment between October 31, 2002 and December 16, 2002. Written comments must be received by 3:00 PM on December 16, 2002. A public hearing on the project will be held on December 3, 2002 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM

DATES: Public hearing date/time: December 3, 2002, 5:00 PM. Comment due date/time: December 16, 2002, 3:00 PM.

ADDRESSES: Written comments are to be sent to Wilson Fernandez, Project Manager, Miami-Dade Metropolitan Planning Organization, 111 NW First Street Suite 910, Miami Florida, 33128. The public hearing will be held at the Miami-Dade Community College – Wolfson Campus, Emerging Technology Center of the Americas, 300 NE Second Avenue, Miami, FL 33130.

Copies of the DEIS are available for review by contacting the Wilson Fernandez at the Miami-Dade MPO, 111 NW First Street Suite 910, Miami FL, 33128.

Copies of the DEIS are also available for review at the Miami-Dade Main Library,

101 W. Flagler, Miami, FL 33130 and the Miami Beach Branch Library at 2100 Collins Avenue, Miami Beach FL.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Elizabeth B. Martin, Senior Community Planner, Federal Transit Administration, Region IV, Atlanta Federal Center, 17th Floor, 61 Forsyth Street, Atlanta, Georgia 30303, (404) 562-3509.